

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-28 (Cancelled)

29. (New) A method comprising:

transitioning a central processing unit (CPU) of a computer system into a low power mode, the computer system having a memory, and

independent of the CPU, using a user interface of a low power subsystem, accessing data contained within the computer system memory through a shared database, the shared database being shared by the computer system and the low-power subsystem.

30. (New) The method of Claim 29, further comprising storing at least a partial copy of data accessed from the computer system memory in the shared database.

31. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the computer system memory comprises a disk drive unit.

32. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the data contained in the shared database includes multimedia data.

33. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising accessing data from a network via the low-power subsystem.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the network is accessed using a wireless interface.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the network is an electronic store allowing an electronic purchase.

36. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising presenting the data accessed to a user via a display of the user interface of the low-power subsystem.

37. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising presenting the data accessed to a user via an audio medium of the user interface of the low-power subsystem.

38. (New) An apparatus comprising:
a computer system
a shared database coupled to the computer system; and
a low-power subsystem coupled to the shared database, the low power subsystem having a processor with access to the shared database, and a user interface independent of the computer system, the user interface providing access to the computer system through the processor and the shared database.

39. (New) The apparatus of Claim 38, wherein the low-power subsystem is in operation when the central processing unit enters a low power mode.

40. (New) The apparatus of Claim 38, wherein the computer system further comprises:

a central processing unit (CPU);
a memory device coupled to the central processing unit; and
a disk drive unit coupled to the central processing unit.

41. (New) The apparatus of Claim 40, wherein the shared database is coupled to the disk drive unit, the database to store at least a partial copy of data stored on the disk drive.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein data contained within the database includes multimedia data.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the low-power subsystem further comprises a wireless interface is to connect with a local area network.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the user interface of the low-power subsystem further comprises a video display to display data from the shared database.

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the user interface of the low-power subsystem further comprises a wireless user interface to receive verbal commands from a user.

46. (New) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the wireless user interface further comprises an audio headset to receive audio data transmitted from the wireless user interface.

47. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the low-power subsystem further comprises an interface to transmit data to a cellular phone.

48. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the computer system comprises a main screen and the low-power subsystem comprises a miniature display screen and wherein the miniature display screen is activated when the main screen is closed.

49. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the computer system comprises stored multimedia data, wherein the low-power subsystem accesses the stored multimedia data through the shared database and wherein the low-power subsystem presents the multimedia data to a user through the user interface.

50. (New) The apparatus of claim 49, wherein the low-power subsystem presents the multimedia data to the user over a miniature display screen of the user interface.

51. (New) A low-power subsystem comprising:
a miniature display screen;
a user input unit;
a processor coupled to the miniature display screen and the user input unit and to a shared database, the processor providing access for the miniature display screen and the user input unit to a computer system through the shared database.

52. (New) The subsystem of claim 51 wherein the processor provides access to the computer system when the computer system is in a low-power mode.

53. (New) The subsystem of claim 51, wherein the shared database is coupled to the computer system to store at least a partial copy of data stored in the computer system.

54. (New) The subsystem of claim 51, further comprising a wireless interface to connect to an external network.

55. (New) The subsystem of claim 51, further comprising a wireless interface to connect the user input device and the processor.

56. (New) The subsystem of claim 51 wherein the user input unit comprises a wireless user interface to receive verbal commands from a user.